

SIT notes

1-28-16

Present: Pam McCarthy, Alicia Hanrahan, Cindy Tabor, Diane Bugbee, Laurel Omland, Beth Joyal, Amy Danielson

Regrets: Cheryle Bilodeau, Melanie D'Amico

Location: DVHA Conference Room, 312 Hurricane Lane, Williston

- Welcome new member, Melanie D'Amico---Melanie and Cheryle sent regrets due to illness
- Referrals? None. Cindy updated on case from last meeting.
- Act 264 Updates---Kathy said that the priorities should be out in March. Want System of Care Plan updated---it has been 20 years. One of the priorities is parent voice. The priorities will come to SIT, Commissioners, Secretaries, Legislature, etc.
- Parental Involvement at SIT---
 - Cheryle's draft gives families option to phone in. This did happen a few times in the past. Some LIT's have families attend. Some allow them to be there for the whole discussion; others have families present their concerns, then leave for the team's discussion/problem solving, which we know can be messy at times, esp. when money is being discussed.
 - "Nothing about us without us!" is the mantra for disability advocates; VFF and VFN shared that view. SIT members present agreed that "meetings after meetings" aren't a good idea; neither is messy wrangling about resources respectful/helpful in families' presence. Kathy noted that phone in option is a big improvement; wants uniformity. Geography a barrier to attendance for many who might want to attend SIT. Pam noted that something is lost when one can't see the others' reactions/body language during discussion. We discussed videoconferencing possibilities. DA's, ADAP, VR have capability. BBF has some other meeting tech.
 - We all agreed that Cheryle's framework, based on Family Safety Planning in Family Services Division, was very helpful in the discussion w/ the last case. Could we pilot something with "readier" LIT's? Families have much to teach us, if we can be open to inclusion. The question was asked, "What happens when someone wants to record the meeting? Or bring an attorney?" There would have to be clear guidance for all about what SIT process/expectations would be. SIT is not a decision-making body, SIT advises and recommends. Families need to know what SIT is and is not. We should get to a place where we can say "no" when it's "no", and be able to say why. We should also be able to say "Yes!" when it is possible.

- Family Guide to SIT---#1 Instead of Family Voice, put VFFCMH and VFN.
 #5 AHS-IFS #7 VDH---add CSHN. Maybe MCH, too? Ask Breena.
 #8 other partners as needed (look at list from LIT Extravaganza slides).
 “Mission of SIT”---IS there a mission? Don’t like “silo” language. Something more like
 “To facilitate collaboration...”
 “Why is there a SIT?”---Should be “Secretaries” (plural)
 “To find more info”---move this section to the end of the document. Need to update
 Coordinator links.
 Want to add something about “informed decision-making”
 Cindy noted that families feel the system just does what it does. We want them to feel
 part of decision making. Often feels like there are no choices, “Take it or leave it.”
 There is a scarcity mentality---needs to be more focus on creativity and flexibility; what
 we CAN do, vs. how much it costs and what we can’t/won’t do. This is what IFS is all
 about! We can really change things!
 Discussed how to get families/stakeholders in the Turn the Curve work. We need to
 change the residential picture, that’s certain.
- LIT Extravaganza – send reminder to LIT and Act 264 that the information is available